



# PRESDALES SCHOOL

*Achievement for all*

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Dear Parent/Carer

## COVID

A reminder to email [covid@presdales.herts.sch.uk](mailto:covid@presdales.herts.sch.uk) if anyone in your family has symptoms or you are waiting for test results. We can identify close contacts in advance and be ready to contact parents at any time, including evenings and weekends if their child needs to self-isolate. Not knowing in advance does delay this process significantly.

## Toy Appeal

Thank you to all those who have donated toys for the Jedidiah Christmas toy appeal. We have an ever increasing number of toys being delivered to reception ready to pass on. A reminder that we have until 10<sup>th</sup> December before they are collected, if anyone else would like to donate.

## Christmas Lunch

Over the past two days we have had Christmas lunches. Although different to normal, it was good to see so many students wearing their Christmas jumpers. A reminder that the canteen is closed for other students unless you have pre-booked a packed lunch. As per our behaviour policy, fast food should not be dropped off for students to eat.

## BYOD

Following a Trust Board meeting yesterday, the school has decided to move ahead with our 'Bring Your Own device' programme. In the summer term, we canvassed the opinions of parents and there was overwhelming support for this, including parents financing the device for their own child. As from September 2021, the new Year 7 students will need to have a Chromebook to use in school, this initiative will roll out to every Year 7 from then on. For current students, our preferred device is a Chromebook, however, as so many students will already have a device, they will be able to use whatever they have in school. We are still some way off starting this strategy, but with Christmas coming up I thought it would be useful to share our plans for the future. Further information will be shared over the next term, including how we can support families who may be having financial difficulties as well as possible payment plans.

## Year 9 Options process

This is due to start next week with presentations to the students in form time. Mrs Stephenson will share information with Year 9 parents about the process/deadlines etc. in due course.

## Safety on the way home

We were made aware yesterday of an incident that happened last week where a van driver slowed down when passing one of our students and tried to get their attention by using the van horn. This has been reported to the Police. We are asking students to be extra vigilant and inform us if they see or experience anything similar.

### **Change of dates**

- To avoid another Friday out of school, the planned inset day on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January** will be moved to **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January**
- As Year 8 parents were not able to have a Parent Consultation last year when their children were in Year 7, we have brought forward the Year 8 PCM which was originally planned for the summer term. This will now be held remotely on **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021**.

### **Remote Learning**

Thank you to everyone who has completed the survey about remote learning, we are down to the last 100 parents now. If you have not completed the survey, please do so by following this [link](#). We are in the process of organising 80+ Chromebooks for students to use at home. If you have been sent an agreement form, please complete and return it as soon as possible.

### **PressTales**

Please click [here](#) for this week's PressTales.

I wish all of the students and staff a restful weekend.

Regards

Matt Warren  
Headteacher